

TED KALZYNSKI
to
BEAU FRIEDLANDER

December 14, 1998

Dear Beau,

Thanks for your letter of December 11. I especially appreciate the frankness ~~with which you~~ and thoroughness with which you have detailed your interactions with 60 Minutes. However, I think it would be extremely risky to trust these people. Please ask Michael Mello to fax you a copy of my letter to him of December 10, and also a copy of the letter to me from Steven Fischler that I've sent to Mello. I also would ~~urge~~ urge you strongly to contact Fischler (who is a media-savvy independent film-maker) and ask him to tell you what he knows about 60 Minutes. Here are his address and phone number:

Steven Fischler
Pacific Street Films
579 Broadway
Hastings-on-Hudson NY 10706
phone
fax

By the way, I would appreciate it if you would ask Mello to send a copy of my letter of December 10 to Professor Bonnie, too. I've already sent Bonnie a copy of the Fischler letter.

There is only one case in which I would even consider giving an interview to 60 Minutes. They would have to agree in writing, with all the necessary legal formalities, that their program on my case would be reviewed, before being

broadcast, by me and Professor Bonnie, and if the program actually broadcast differed in the smallest detail from what had been approved by me and Professor Bonnie, then CBS would be bound to pay some colossal financial indemnity — say a billion dollars — or anyway enough to guarantee that they would not even consider breaking the agreement. But I would be very surprised if CBS accepted any such conditions.

I request that you and Professor Mello refrain from holding any further discussions with 60 Minutes, or with any other media people, until you've cleared it with me and ~~Professor~~ Professor Bonnie. Remember, if you're contacted by the media, there is no need to hurry about responding to them. I've been receiving overtures from the media all along, I continue to receive them, and I don't doubt that I will be receiving them for some time to come. It is certain that media interest in the case will be maintained for several more months, at the least.

If CBS (or any other media outfit) contacts you, you can tell them, "Come back in two weeks or a month," and they will come back in two weeks or a month. So there is no reason why we shouldn't act with deliberation. And there are plenty of reasons why we should act with deliberation.

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I was very perturbed by the statement on p.2, paragraph 4 of your letter that "Mello's

manuscript had already arrived." I assume that means arrived at the CBS offices. It is extremely imprudent to let anyone in the media look at that manuscript in its present form, since it includes material that, if made public, might have legal ~~consequences~~ consequences. Professor Bonnie wants to review the manuscript for such material before the book is published, but that won't do much good if the material has already been made public by some journalist.

Professor Mello has, of course, his First Amendment right, but I hold copyright to writings of mine that he has quoted in the manuscript. I am withdrawing any and all permission that I've given him to quote from any writings of mine in his book or to publish any confidential information I've given him. In the long run I probably will allow publication of most of this material. My withdrawal of permission is a precaution to prevent the material from being made public before Bonnie has had an opportunity to review it and determine whether any of it should be deleted. If I'm not mistaken, making a copy of the manuscript in its present form (i.e., with the quotations from my writings included) and giving it to anyone (especially a media person!) will ~~constitute~~ constitute violation of copyright.

After Professor Bonnie has reviewed the manuscript for possible legal problems and deleted anything of mine that he thinks should be deleted, I will probably reinstate permission to publish the

rest.

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A couple of my correspondents have cast aspersions on Alston Chase's honesty, but they may be heavily biased by ideological antagonism, and I don't know whether he's honest or not. At the moment I'm inclined ~~to~~ to think he's honest, though I vacillate on that point.

If I had solid evidence of double-dealing toward me on Chase's part, I wouldn't scruple to obtain a copy of his manuscript on the sly, as you suggested ~~it~~ on p. 2, paragraph 4, of your letter. However, since I have no solid evidence that Chase has not been honest with me, I don't want to deal with him in an underhand way. Hence, I would prefer that you refrain from asking your mole at Viking to obtain a copy of Chase's manuscript surreptitiously.

I'd like to ~~remind~~ remind you, by the way, that the fact that I'm corresponding with Chase should be kept confidential.

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It's not clear to me why you are in such a hurry to publish my book. If you can't publish it in January, then you can publish it in February. If you're not ready by February then you can publish it in March. Of course, I too would like to see it published as soon as possible — meaning as soon as may be consistent with the dictates of ~~the~~ prudence. But I don't think it would be consistent with the dictates of prudence for me

to sign the contract without Professor Bonnie's approval.

Anyway, the bottom line is that I won't sign the contract until (a) Bonnie says it's alright, and (b) I've had a chance to go over the contract thoroughly again.

As to point (b), I keep trying to get at that contract, but problems keep coming up faster than I can handle them. For example, I had hoped to get to work on it today, but then Michael's letters of December 10 and 11 arrived, and, especially, yours of December 11. Since I feel that this 60-Minutes business urgently demands an answer from me, I'm spending the whole day composing letters to you and others on the subject. So, if you want me to take care of point (b) promptly, then I suggest that you and Mello should just hold your horses, sit tight, tell the media to come back a month from now, and refrain from doing anything else to create issues to worry me.

As to point (a), yes, please do send Professor Bonnie a copy of the manuscript of Truth versus Lies. I very much appreciate the fact that you waited for my permission before doing this. That's the kind of restraint I like to see. When you send him the manuscript you may as well send him a copy of the contract, too, in case he wants to look that over.

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As for serialization, I would choose Vanity Fair over Time. For myself I'm not interested

in serialization, and I'll allow it only as a courtesy to you. I assume that serialization will increase your profits, and since Context is a brand-new company it may be that you have to exert yourself to keep it financially solvent.

I'm not especially concerned to reach the maximum possible number of readers, and it seems to me that there would be more dignity in simply publishing the book without any serialization or media ballyhoo. But, as I've indicated, I'm prepared to defer to you in this respect (assuming it's alright with Bonnie).

You ended your letter of December 11 by saying you hoped I was "satisfied with the above developments." I think you have gathered by now that I am not "satisfied with the above developments." I'm pissed off.

Best regards,

Ted Kaczynski